

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 00951 210725Z

21

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /013 W

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R 201713Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO USIA WASHDC

SECSTATE WASHDC 5247

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ROME 0951

USIAC

FOR ICS, IEU, IOA/RMS

STATE FOR EUR/WE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: VTF PROPOSAL

REF: ROME 00779

PARA 5 IN REFTEL SHOULD BE DELETED AND THE TWO
FOLLOWING SUGGESTIONS ADDED:

IMPACT OF EUROPEAN SOCIALISM. AIM IS TO DISCUSS EXPERIENCE
TO DATE OF DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST GOVERNMENTS IN WESTERN
EUROPE, PARTICULARLY IN ECONOMIC, LABOR, AND SOCIAL AREAS.
WE BELIEVE THAT THERE ARE SOME OBJECT LESSONS TO BE LEARNED
BY ITALIAN SOCIALISTS FROM SOCIALIST EXPERIENCE ELSEWHERE,
PERHAPS ESPECIALLY IN BRITAIN. HOWEVER, SINCE THE PRIMARY
INTENDED AUDIENCE IS THE ITALIAN SOCIALISTS, THE "LESSONS"
SHOULD NOT BE SO POINTED AS TO INVITE AUTOMATIC REJECTION.
DISCUSSION SHOULD INCLUDE THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC GOALS THAT
SOCIALISTS HAVE ATTEMPTED TO ACCOMPLISH ELSEWHERE, THE MEANS
USED, THE RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT AND FAILURE, AND
THE REASONS FOR THE LATTER. PREFERRED INTERVIEWEE:
THE POST IS UNCERTAIN WHO COULD BEST TO THIS JOB.

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OBVIOUSLY IT SHOULD BE SOMEBODY WHO IS PROFESSIONALLY

COMPETENT AND WHO IS NOT A PROTAGONIST, BUT WHO ALSO HAS A REPUTATION THAT WILL MAKE SOCIALISTS INCLINED TO LISTEN TO HIM. THE FOLLOWING ARE SUGGESTIONS, SUBJECT TO ANY OTHER IDEAS WHICH THE AGENCY MAY HAVE: PROF. DAVID RIESMAN, (HARVARD), PROF. DANIEL BELL (HARVARD), AND IRVING KRISTOL, EDITOR OF DISSENT.

ECONOMIC INTERDEPENDENCE: AN INTERVIEW: GARDNER ACKLEY (PARTICULARLY APPROPRIATE IN VIEW OF HIS CONNECTIONS WITH ITALY) OR ANOTHER PROMINENT ECONOMIST OR ECONOMIC/POLITICAL FIGURE. AIM: TO EMPHASIZE DEGREE TO WHICH ITALIAN ECONOMY IS INTER-CONNECTED WITH, AND DEPENDENT UPON, AN INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SYSTEM DOMINATED BY WESTERN INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES. AUDIENCE: BUSINESS COMMUNITY, ACADEMICS AND MEDIA. SUGGESTED QUESTIONS: (A) WHAT CHANGES HAVE TAKEN PLACE OVER THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS IN INCREASING ECONOMIC INTERDEPENDENCE? IN WHAT FIELDS? HOW ARE DOMESTIC ECONOMIC POLICIES CONSTRAINED BY THIS INTERDEPENDENCE? (B) WHAT IS THE CORE OF THIS "INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COMMUNITY"? WHY ARE THE EASTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHER CENTRALLY-PLANNED ECONOMIES ONLY ON THE FRINGES OF THIS SYSTEM? (C) WHAT IS THE UNDERLYING POLITICAL BASIS FOR THIS ECONOMIC INTERDEPENDENCE? IN WHAT WAY IS POLITICAL COMPATIBILITY A PRE-REQUISITE FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE SYSTEM? BURNETT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SOCIALISM, POLITICAL SITUATION, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ROME00951
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760022-0660
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760139/aaaabibi.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 ROME 779
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <12 MAY 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VTF PROPOSAL
TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, PINT, XG, IT
To: USIA STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006